

There are V Tences or Times

Present	_____	Do.	Do ^{Doth} Does
	Imperfect	Did	Didst
Past	{ Perfect	{ Have	hast hath or has
	Pluperfect	{ Had	hadst
Future	_____	Shall or Will	_____
			shalt or wilt

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A
SHORT SKETCH
OF
ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

Intended for the USE of such as
Study THAT LANGUAGE Only.

CONSISTING OF
A FEW RULES,
Abstracted chiefly from JOHNSON, LOWTH, ASH, &c.
By the Observance of which, a Person wholly unacquainted with ANY OTHER LANGUAGE, may learn to

SPEAK and WRITE ENGLISH,
Not only intelligibly, but with tolerable Propriety.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,
A TABLE, exhibiting, at One View, the DECLINABLE PARTS of SPEECH, with their SUB-DIVISIONS.

By WELLS EGELSHAM, Printer. K

" These Rules are not advanced as complete or infallible,
" but proposed as useful. Almost every Rule of every
" Language has its Exceptions; and, in English, as in
" other Tongues, much must be learned by Example and
" Authority." Dr. JOHNSON.

L O N D O N :

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M DCC LXXX.



P R E F A C E.

THE Editor of the following pages, conscious of the inferiority of his abilities, has not the presumption to think himself capable of adding any thing new to the ingenious observations of the learned Writers who have already treated on this Subject: his design being only to compile from those eminent Authors, (for the use of the mere English Scholar) a cheap and concise

ACCIDENCE OF OUR MOTHER TONGUE.

He hopes some merit will be allowed to his intention by an indulgent Publick, to whose judgement he implicitly submits the manner in which he has executed it.

The method of forming Letters into Syllables and Words he has omitted: first, because he thinks the best written directions fall much short of the oral instructions of an able teacher; and secondly, because the Scholar should at least have some knowledge of Orthography, previous to his entrance on the Study of the Parts of Speech.

As

As to Syntax (which both Dr. JOHNSON and Bishop LOWTH seem to think almost useless in English) the Editor has contented himself with inserting a few necessary observations relating to it, under the respective Parts of Speech to which they belong.

There are some Irregular Verbs, the Present, Imperfect, and Perfect Tenses of which are spelt exactly the same, and only vary in the pronouncing the Vowel which forms the sound either long or short; as, to *read*, &c. and some others, where, though two Vowels are used in writing them, yet one only is expressed in speaking; as, to *bear*, &c. these are pointed out to the Learner by placing the proper quantities over such leading Vowels.

The Editor flatters himself, if the Scholar was used to copy a portion of this little Book, according to his capacity, in the evening, to repeat it by heart in the morning, and to parse his lessons as he reads them, it might be the means of removing the reproach under which our countrymen so frequently labour of *not being able to speak their Mother Tongue with propriety*.

Should this attempt meet with the indulgence of the Publick, any corrections or observations the Editor may be favoured with, shall be gratefully received, and attended to in a future Edition.

11 JY 63

A SHORT

Errat. P. 26. l. 4. for " To fly and to flee," read
" To flee and to fly."

A

SHORT SKETCH

OF

ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

THE English language is divided by Bishop Lowth (1) into Nine Parts, viz.

ARTICLE,
SUBSTANTIVE OR
NOUN,
PRONOUN,
ADJECTIVE,

VERB,
ADVERB,
PREPOSITION,
CONJUNCTION,
INTERJECTION.

N.B. The Article, Substantive or Noun, Pronoun, Adjective, and Verb, are said to be *declinable*, and the other four *undeclinable*. *Declension* is the variation words are subject to according to the power of the Pronoun or Preposition by which they are governed.

(1) See his "Introduction to English Grammar."

B

Of

Of the A R T I C L E.

The English Articles are *a* or *an*, and *the* : of these the first may be called the General Articles, and the last the Particular, as, *a man robbed a house* : here the Article *a* has only a general meaning, *a man* signifying no particular man, but only *some* man : But, if we say, *the man robbed a house*, we point out the particular man, *the* or *that man* [whom we saw] *robbed*, &c.

The General Articles *a* and *an* have the same meaning ; but the latter is used only before words beginning with a silent *b*, that is when it has little or no sound, or before any vowel, *w* and *y* excepted (both which should certainly be arranged in that (2) class) ; and the former before all other words.

When a Substantive is used without any Article preceding it, it is to be taken in the most extensive sense, as, *man is subject to error*, i. e. not *some* men, or *any particular man*, but the whole species, *all men* are subject to error.

A and *an* are used only in the singular number ; but *the* indifferently in both, though it is frequently dropped in the plural number, and sometimes the Pronoun *these* is substituted in its stead, as, *these men robbed*, &c.

N.B. Though Articles are sometimes omitted, yet they are used with propriety before all Substantives, except Proper Names.

(2) Lowth.

De-

Declension of ARTICLES.

<i>Singular.</i>		<i>Singular and Plural.</i>	
Nominative	a or an	Nominative,	the
Genitive,	of a or an	Genitive,	of the
Dative	to a or an	Dative,	to the
Accusative	a or an	Accusative,	the
Vocative, <i>wanting</i>		Vocative, <i>wanting</i>	
Ablative, <i>by, in,</i>		Ablative, <i>by, in,</i>	
<i>for, from, to,</i>		<i>for, from, to, or</i>	
<i>or with</i>	a or an	<i>with</i>	the

OF SUBSTANTIVES or NOUNS.

A Substantive or Noun is the name of a thing or substance; and expresses a complete idea, without the addition of any other word to explain its meaning, as, *man, house*.

Substantives are of two sorts, Proper and Common. By a Substantive Proper is meant the particular name of a man or place, as, *George, London*. The names of all other things, whether animate or inanimate, are called Common, as, *a man, a house, a horse, a bridle*.

Substantives Proper seldom admit of Articles, except in the following instances; as, when we would describe some great conqueror, we say, *an Alexander*, or *the Alexander* of the age; when a Common Substantive is understood, as, *the Thames, for the river Thames*; or when there are more than one person of the same name, as, *the two Scipios*.

Substantives consist of Numbers and Cases.

The Numbers are two; the Singular and Plural. The Singular speaketh of one person or thing only;

as, *a* or *one man*, *a* or *one house*; the Plural of any indeterminate number above one, as, *men*, *houses*.

The Cases are six, viz. the Nominative, Genitive, Dative, Accusative, Vocative, and Ablative. The Nominative Case denotes simply a person or thing, as, *a lord*, *a house*; the Genitive implies property or possession, and is known by the Preposition *of*, or *'s*, as, *the house of a lord*, or *a lord's house*; the Dative is used to express something given or done to, and is distinguished by the Preposition *to*, as, *he gave to her*, *she lent to him*; but the Preposition is frequently dropped without any injury to grammatical propriety, as, *he gave her*, *she lent him*: the Dative is also sometimes used for the Genitive, as, *it belongs to him*, for *it is his*: the Vocative implies an exclamation or calling upon, and is known by the Preposition *o*, as, *O Lord*, though it is often used without the Preposition, as, *Lord* [*O Lord*] *now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace*: and the Ablative has a variety of meanings, according to the sense of the Preposition which governs it, and which most commonly are these; *of* [*concerning*], *in*, *with*, *by*, *from*, as, *he went by her*, *she came from home*, *he spoke of* [*concerning*] *her*, *she went with him*.

E X A M P L E.

<i>Singular.</i>		<i>Plural.</i>	
N.	<i>a lord</i>	N.	<i>lords</i>
G.	<i>of a lord, or, a lord's</i>	G.	<i>of lords</i>
D.	<i>to a lord</i>	D.	<i>to lords</i>
A.	<i>a lord</i>	A.	<i>lords</i>
V.	<i>o lord</i>	V.	<i>o lords</i>
Ab.	<i>by, from, of, &c. a lord</i>	Ab.	<i>in, from, of, &c. lords</i>

N.B.

N.B. The 's used commonly to distinguish the Genitive Case Singular, has been mistaken as a contraction of *his*; but is in reality derived from our Saxon ancestors, who used to express this Case thus, *Godis grace*, for *the grace of God*, and which is now shortened by an apostrophe, thus, *God's grace*. The glaring absurdity of supposing 's to stand for *his* in regard to females, as *Mary his cap*, or to Plurals, as, *children his play-things*, is a convincing proof of the truth of this observation, which is borrowed from Dr. JOHNSON and Bp. LOWTH.

Note also, Some writers express the Genitive Plural thus, *lords' house* for *house of lords*; but this is exploded by Dr. JOHNSON. However, this method is sometimes used in poetry, on account of the verse; and not inelegantly in the Singular Number to avoid the hissing where two *esses* are pronounced separate; as, *the mistress's sewing*, for *the mistress's sewing*.

The Plurals of Substantives are formed by adding *s* or *es* to the Nominative Case Singular, as, *lord, lords, church, churches*; but to this rule there are some exceptions, as, *ox, oxen, man, men, woman, women*, [*brother, brethren, cow, kine, hog, swine*, these three have also regular Plurals, as, *brothers, cows, hogs*], *louse, lice, mouse, mice, goose, geese, foot, feet, tooth, teeth, die, dice, penny, pence*. Singulars ending in *f* or *fe*, form the Plurals in *ves*, as, *wife, wives, calf, calves, sheaf, sheaves, half, halves, leaf, leaves, loaf, loaves, shelf, shelves, self, selves, knife, knives, wolf, wolves, thief, thieves, life, lives*: except the following, which form their Plurals in *s*, viz. *chief, hoof,*

hoof, roof, proof, mischief, handkerchief, grief, dwarf, cuff, muff, puff, snuff. Some Substantives are of both numbers, as, *deer, sheep, &c.* Some have no Singular Termination, as, *arms [weapons], annals, ashes, bowels, bellows, breeches, calends, cresses, goods, entrails, ides, lungs, mallows, nones, scissors, snuffers, sheers, tongs, &c.* and some no Plural, as all Proper Names (except *Alps, Andes, Appennines, Devizes, and Pyrenees*) and all kinds of grain, herbs, drugs, spices, and liquids, as, *wheat, grass, cochineal, pepper, beer.* *See Omis: Page 31*

There are also three Genders or kinds of Substantives, the Masculine, Feminine, and the Neuter; the males of all creatures are of the Masculine Gender, the females of the Feminine, and things without life of the Neuter (3). The Masculine Gender, when the Substantive is omitted, is expressed by *he*, as, *he rides*; the Feminine by *she*, as, *she walks*; and the Neuter by *it*, as, *it stood here.*

N.B. The Neuter Gender is sometimes used, where the sex is uncertain; as, *do not wake the child, it is asleep.*

Some Feminines are formed by changing the termination into *es*; as, *abbot, abbess, ambassador, ambassadress, governor, governess, heir, heiress, prior, prioress, &c.* The following are irregulars, viz. *duke, dutchess, marquis, marchioness, master, dame or mistress.*

The Feminines of some Substantives are not formed by any addition to or variation from the Masculine, but are expressed by words entirely different, which have only a Feminine signification (4); as,

(3) Lowth. (4) Greenwood's "Royal English Grammar," p. 39.

Masc.

<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Masc.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>
Batchelor	Maid, Virgin	husband	wife
boar	fow	king	queen
boy	girl	lad	lass
bridegroom	bride	lord	lady
brother	sister	man	woman
buck	doe	nephew	niece
bull	cow	ram	ewe
bullock	heifer	flower	flut
cock	hen	son	daughter
dog	bitch	stag	hind
father	mother	uncle	aunt
friar	nun	widower	widow
horse	mare	wizard	witch

Sometimes the Masculine and Feminine are distinguished by placing before the Substantive *male*, *female*, *he*, *she*; as, *male child*, *female child*, *he goat*, *she goat*.

N.B. See the meaning of a Substantive or Noun of Multitude under the head **VERBS**.

OF PRONOUNS.

A Pronoun is a word substituted for a Noun, and relates chiefly to Persons.

Pronouns consist of three Persons in each number, the First, Second, and Third; as,

<i>Singular.</i>			<i>Plural.</i>		
<i>1st</i>	<i>2^d</i>	<i>3^d</i>	<i>1st</i>	<i>2^d</i>	<i>3^d</i>
I,	thou or you,	he, she, it	we,	ye or you	they

which are thus varied,

<i>Singular.</i>		<i>Plural.</i>	
N.	I	N.	we
G. &c.	me	G. &c.	us

Singular.

<i>Singular.</i>			<i>Plural.</i>	
N.	thou		N.	ye
G. &c.	thee		G. &c.	you

N.B. *You*, when used as the Second Person Singular, has no variation.

<i>Singular.</i>			<i>Plural.</i>	
N.	he, she		N.	they
G. &c.	him, her		G. &c.	them

<i>Singular.</i>			<i>Plural.</i>	
N.	it		N.	they
G.	its		G.	them
D. &c.	it		G. &c.	them

N.B. *It* is applied to Neuters only.

Note also, The above are called Personal Pronouns ; and may be considered as Substantives, for which they are frequently used.

The Possessive Pronouns (which imply property or possession) have, like other Adjectives (5), no variation, except from the Singular Number to the Plural ; as,

For the First Person,

<i>Sing.</i>	my, mine		<i>Plur.</i>	our, ours
--------------	----------	--	--------------	-----------

For the Second Person,

<i>Sing.</i>	thy, thine		<i>Plur.</i>	your, yours
--------------	------------	--	--------------	-------------

For the Third Person,

<i>Sing.</i>	his, her, hers		<i>Plur.</i>	their, theirs
--------------	----------------	--	--------------	---------------

(5) Johnson.

Their

Their and *theirs* are likewise the Possessives of the Neutral Pronoun *it*.

Mine, *thine*, *ours*, *yours*, *hers*, *theirs*, are only used when they refer to a preceding Substantive, as, *these things are mine, ours, &c.* *Mine* and *thine* were formerly put before words beginning with a vowel, but are now seldom used otherwise than above directed.

Ours, *yours*, *hers*, *theirs*, are used indifferently in both numbers (6); as, *this hat is ours, these shoes are yours.*

Ourself is only used in the regal style, as, *witness ourself at Westminster.*

N.B. *Ourn* or *ourcn*, *yourn* *his'n*, *hern*, though derived from the Saxon, are now obsolete; and should never be used by persons who wish to speak or write with propriety.

The Pronouns Relative are *who*, *which*, *what*, *whosoever*, *whatsoever* which are thus varied,

Personal.		Neutral.	
Sing. and Plur.		Sing. and Plur.	
N.	who	N.	which
G.	whose	G.	of which
D. &c.	whom	D.	which

Whosoever is varied in the same manner as *who*. *What* and *Whatsoever* have no variation.

N.B. A Relative Pronoun refers to a preceding Substantive or Pronoun, which are then called Antecedents; as, *God, whom you serve*, or *He, whom you serve*. Here *God* and *He* are the Antecedents, to which the Relative *whom* refers.

(6) Johnson.

Note also, The Neutral Pronoun *that* is often improperly used for the Relatives *who*, *whom* and *which*; as, *the man that [who] had been on the same side that [which] I had been on. He is the man that [whom] we saw.*

Demonstrative Pronouns have no variation of Cases, but only of Numbers; as,

<i>Singular.</i>		<i>Plural.</i>
this		these
that		those
other		others

N.B. *This here* and *that there* are improper.

Note also, *This*, *these*, *that*, *those* have sometimes the Adjective *very* put after them to add more force to an assertion; as, *this is the very man I told you of.*

Others is used only, when the Substantive it relates to is omitted; as, *he returned the books he borrowed, and I lent him others*: but when the Substantive is expressed, *other* is used; as, *I lent him other books.*

Another admits of no variation, but to the Genitive Singular, *another's*.

Own sometimes refers to a preceding Substantive; as, *he wore Tom's hat I wore my own*; and sometimes it is emphatically added to another Pronoun, and implies a kind of negation; as, *I wear my own clothes*, i. e. *not another's*.

Self, like *own*, is added to other Pronouns, as, *myself, yourself*.

Of A D J E C T I V E S.

An Adjective expresses the quality or condition of a person or thing spoken of, but has in itself no precise or determinate meaning, without being joined to a Substantive, as, *a good man, a fine house*;

here *good* and *fine* are the Adjectives or qualities, and convey no meaning until joined to the Substantives, *man* and *house*.

But Adjectives are used singly, when they refer to a preceding Substantive, as, *I like white gloves, better than blue*, that is, *blue gloves*; and sometimes the place of a Substantive is supplied by the Pronoun *one*, as, *he gave me a good halfpenny and a bad one*, that is, *a bad halfpenny*.

Adjectives have no variation in Number, Case, or Gender; but they have three Degrees of Comparison, viz. the Positive, which implies simply the quality or condition, as, *fair, lovely*; the Comparative, which raises it something higher, as, *fairer, lovelier*; and the Superlative, which expresses the highest Degree, as, *fairest, loveliest*. In like manner, that is, by adding *er* or *est* to the Positive Degree, the Comparatives and Superlatives of most Adjectives are formed; as,

<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Comparative.</i>	<i>Superlative.</i>
fair	fairer	fairest
lovely	lovelier	loveliest
sweet	sweeter	sweetest
low	lower	lowest
high	higher	highest

N.B. There is not an error more common, among persons unacquainted with Grammar, than the using of Double Comparatives and Double Superlatives, as, *more fairer, most fairest*; the learner therefore should be careful to avoid it. But *Most Highest* is applied with peculiar propriety to that Being, and to Him only, whose attributes it is not in our power either to express or to conceive.

Adjectives sometimes form their Comparatives and Superlatives, not by the variation of their terminations, but by prefixing to them *more* and *most*; as,

hard		more hard		most hard
smooth		more smooth		most smooth
kind		more kind		most kind

N.B. Adjectives may be compared with *more* and *most*, though they have regular Comparisons of their own; as,

fair		more fair		most fair
------	--	-----------	--	-----------

The above are called Regular Comparisons.

There are also Irregular Comparisons, whose Comparatives and Superlatives are not formed according to either of the above rules; as,

good		better		best
bad		worse *		worst
little		less †		least
much		more		most
many		more		most

* *N.B.* There is no such word as *worser*.

† *Note also*, Though *less* have the authority of Dr. Swift and Mr. Addison in its favour, it is condemned by Dr. JOHNSON, and is now entirely disused.

Adjectives derived from other Adjectives ending in *ish*, which diminish the sense of their originals, and are mostly used in a ludicrous sense, as *goodish* (from *good*) *inclining to good*, have no Comparisons; but when derived from Substantives, as, *childish* from *child*, *boyish* from *boy*, *churlish* from *churl*, *foolish* from *fool*, &c. they have; and are compared according to both Regular methods.

Some few words, which may be considered either as Adjectives or Adverbs, form a Superlative by adding *most* at the end; as, former

former	foremost
lower	lowermost
nether	nethermost
outer	outermost
under	undermost
utter	uttermost, utmost

Middle and *very* have a Superlative Degree, but no Comparative (7); as, *middle*, *middlemost*, *very*, *veriest*.

Chief, *extreme*, and such other words as imply in themselves a Superlative signification, do not properly admit the Superlative Degree, though it is sometimes used in poetry.

OF VERBS.

A Verb is a part of speech which implies *action* or *suffering*, and is divided into several kinds, of which it will be sufficient for our present purpose to mention the two following, viz.

The Verb Active, which signifies *to act* or *to do*; as, *I love*, *I teach*: and the Verb Passive, which signifies *suffering*, *being done unto*, or *acted upon*, as, *I am beaten*, *I am loved*, *I am taught*.

Verbs are divided into Modes, Tenses, Numbers, and Persons.

The Modes are the manner of representing the *action* or *suffering*, of which there are five; the Indicative, whereby a thing is simply declared, or a question asked, as, *I love*, *lovest thou?* the Imperative, which *bids* or *commands*, as, *love thou*; the Subjunctive, which supposes a condition, and always has a Conjunction before it, implying a kind of doubt, as, *if I love*; the Potential (8) which implies *ability*, *possibility*, or *permission*, as, *I can love*, *I may love*; and

(-) Greenwood.

(8) Johnson.

the

the Infinitive, which only mentions the *action* or *suffering*, without any regard to Number or Person, as, *to love, to be loved*.

The Tenses or Times are five; the Present, which speaks of what a person now does, as *I love*, that is, *I*, now, at this time, *love*; the Imperfect, which speaks of things past, or already done, as, *I loved*, or *did love*, that is, *I*, once or formerly, *loved*; the Perfect, which speaks with more certainty as to time, as, *I*, now, at this time, *have loved*: the Second Perfect, which speaks of a certain time past, as, *I*, then, at that time, *had loved*: and the Future, which speaks of the time to come, as, *I*, hereafter, *shall* or *will love*. Some Verbs have also a Second Future Tense, to express the Time when an action will be completed, as, *I shall* or *will have done* to-night.

The Numbers and Persons are thus expressed,

Singular.

1st, *I love*, 2d, *thou lovest* or *you love*, 3d, *he loves*,

Plural,

1st, *we love*, 2d, *ye* or *you love*, 3d, *they love*.

N.B. The Verb itself undergoes no alteration, except in the Second and Third Person Singular.

Note also, The Nominative Case governs the Verb, that is, the Verb must always be in the same Number and Person as the Nominative Case; as, *he loves, they love*: and the Vocative Case governs the Second Person, as, *Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace*. There is also a kind of Substantives, called by the Latin Grammarians Nouns of Multitude, which, though they are expressed singularly, and are preceded by a Singular Article, yet, having in reality a Plural signification, govern the Verb indifferently in both Numbers;

bers ; such as, *company, mob, multitude, &c.* For example, *the company is coming, the mob are dispersed.*
N.B. This agreement between the different Parts of Speech is called **CONCORD**.

Note also, I loves, we loves, expressions very common among ignorant people, are False ConCORDS, the Verbs not agreeing with the Nominative Cases ; and must consequently be False Grammar.

There are also a kind of Verbs, which, from their use, are called Auxiliaries, as they assist all other Verbs with the necessary Tenses or Times, which they have not any Terminations of their own to express. These Auxiliaries being sometimes used as perfect Verbs, we have given the variation of the two principal ones, *to have* and *to be*, at full length.

AUXILIARY VERB, *To have.*

Indicative Mode.

Present Tense.

Sing. I have, thou hast or you have, he hath or has ;
Plur. we have, ye have, they have.

Imperfect Tense.

Sing. I had, thou hadst or you had, he had ;
Plur. we had, ye or you had, they had.

Perfect Tense.

Sing. I have had, thou hast had or you have had,
he hath or has had ;
Plur. we have had, ye have had, they have had.

Second Perfect Tense.

Sing. I had had, thou hadst had or you have had,
he had had ;
Plur. we had had, ye or you had had, they had had.
Future

Future Tense.

Sing. I shall or will have, thou shalt or wilt have or
you shall or will have, he shall or will have;

Plur. we shall or will have, ye or you shall or will
have, they shall or will have.

N.B. *Shall* and *will*, the signs of the Future Tense, are very commonly but very improperly used for one another; to avoid which fault, observe, That *will*, in the First Person of both Numbers, promises, threatens, or resolves, as, *I or we will do it*; but, in the Second and Third Persons, foretells, as, *you or ye will do it, he or they will do it*. On the contrary, *shall*, in the First Person, simply foretells, as, *I or we shall do it*; and, in the Second and Third, promises, commands, or threatens, as, *you or ye shall do it, he or they shall do it*.

Imperative Mode.

Sing. Let me have (9), have thou or do thou have,
let him have;

Plur. let us have, have ye, or do ye have, let him have.

Subjunctive Mode.

Present Tense.

Sing. If I have, if thou or you have, if he have;

Plur. if we have, if ye have, if they have.

The rest as the Indicative, except the

Perfect Tense(1).

Sing. If I have had, if thou or you have had, if he have had;

Plur. if we have had, if ye have had, if they have had.

The Potential Mode is formed by prefixing *may* or *can* to the Present Tense, and *might*, *could*, or *should*, to the Perfect of the Subjunctive Mode; as,

Present. I may or can have, &c.

Perfect. I might or could have, &c. *see Omit. Page 21*

N.B. *May* and *can* make *mayst* and *canst* in the Second Person Singular; and *might*, *could*, and *should* make *might'st*, *could'st*, and *should'st*.

Infinitive Mode.

Present Tense. To have.

Perfect Tense. To have had.

Participles. Having, had.

N.B. A Participle is a word derived from a Verb, as, *loving*, from *to love*; and is so called from its partaking of the nature both of the Adjective and the Verb, and in English is generally used either as the one or the other.

AUXILIARY VERB, *To be.*

Indicative Mode.

Present Tense.

Sing. I am, *thou art* or *you are*, *he is*;

Plur. we are, *ye or you are*, *they are*.

Imperfect Tense.

Sing. I was, *thou wast* or *you were*, *he was*;

Plur. we were, *ye were* or *you were*, *they were*.

Perfect Tense.

Sing. I have been, *thou hast* or *you have been*,
he hath or *has been*;

Plur. we have been, *ye or you have been*, *they*
have been.

Second Perfect Tense.

Sing. I had been, *thou hadst* or *you had been*,
he had been;

Plur. we had been, *ye or you had been*, *they had been*.

D

Future

Future Tense.

Sing. I shall or will be, thou shalt or wilt be or you
shall or will be, he shall or will be;
Plur. we shall or will be, ye or you shall or will be,
they shall or will be.

Imperative Mode.

Sing. Let me be, be thou or do thou be, let him be
Plur. let us be, be ye or do ye be, let them be.

Subjunctive Mode.

Present Tense.

Sing. If I be, if thou be or beest or if you be, if he be
Plur. if we be, if ye be, if they be.

N.B. Be was formerly used in the Present Tense
of the Indicative Mode, particularly in the
Plural Number, but is now almost laid aside.

Imperfect Tense.

Sing. If I were, if thou wert or you were, if he were
Plur. if we were, if ye were, if they were.

N.B. Wert is frequently used as the Second Per-
son Singular of the Imperfect Tense of the In-
dicative Mode, but improperly, it belonging
only to the Subjunctive (2).

Perfect Tense.

Sing. If I have been, if thou or you have been,
he have been;
Plur. if we have been, if ye or you have been,
they have been.

Second Perfect Tense.

Sing. If I had been, if thou or you had been,
he had been;
Plur. If we had been, if ye had been, if they had been

Future.

Sing. If *I* shall be, if *thou* shalt or *you* shall be, *he* shall be;

Plur. if *we* shall be, if *thou* shalt or *you* shall be, if *they* shall be.

For the Potential Mode, see p. 17.

Infinitive Mode.

Present Tense. To be.

Perfect Tense. To have been.

Participles. Being, having been.

N.B. To *do* is sometimes used as an Auxiliary, and is thus varied;

Indicative Mode.

Present Tense.

Sing. *I* do, *thou* dost or *you* do, *he* doth or does;

Plur. *we* do, *ye* or *you* do, *they* do.

Imperfect Tense.

Sing. *I* did, *thou* didst or *you* did, *he* did;

Plur. *we* did, *ye* or *you* did, *they* did.

Perfect Tense.

Sing. *I* have done, *thou* hast or *you* have done, *he* has done;

Plur. *we* have done, *ye* have done, *they* have done.

Second Perfect Tense.

Sing. *I* had done, *thou* hadst or *you* had done, *he* had done;

Plur. *we* had done, *ye* or *you* had done, *they* had done.

Future Tense.

Sing. *I* shall or will do, *thou* shalt or wilt or *you* shall or will do, *he* shall or will do;

Plur. *we* shall or will do, *ye* or *you* shall or will do, *they* shall or will do.

Imperative Mode.

Sing. Let *me* do, do *thou*, let *him* do;

Plur. let *us* do, do *ye*, let *them* do.

Subjunctive Mode.

Present Tense.

Sing. If *I* do, if *thou* dost or *you* do, if *he* do;

Plur. if *we* do, if *ye* do, if *they* do.

The rest as the Indicative:

And the Potential Mode as the Subjunctive.

Infinitive Mode.

Present Tense. To do.

Perfect Tense. To have done.

Participles. Doing, done.

N.B. The learner should be cautioned against the superfluous use of this Auxiliary Verb. It is improper, where it does not add force to the expression; but is used with propriety, where it does; as,

Perdition catch my soul,

But I *do* love thee.

Note also, *Do* is almost necessary in asking questions; as, *do* I live? *did* I complain? *do* I not grieve? *did* I not plead?

VERB ACTIVE, *To love.*

Indicative Mode.

Present Tense.

Sing. I love, *thou* lovest or *you* love, *he* loveth or loves;

Plur. we love, *ye* love, *they* love.

Imperfect Tense.

Sing. I loved, *thou* lovedst or *you* loved, *he* loved;

Plur. we loved, *ye* loved, *they* loved.

Perfect Tense.

Sing. I have loved, *thou* hast or *you* have loved,
he hath or has loved;

Plur. we have loved, *ye* have loved, *they* have loved.

Second Perfect Tense.

Sing. I had loved, *thou* hadst or *you* had loved, *he*
had loved;

Plur. we had loved, *ye* had loved, *they* had loved.

Future Tense.

Sing. I shall or will love, *thou* shalt or wilt or *you*
shall or will love, *he* shall or will love;

Plur. we shall or will love, *ye* shall or will love, *they*
shall or will love.

Imperative Mode.

Sing. Let *me* love, love *thou* or do *thou* love, let
him love;

Plur. Let *us* love, love *ye* or do *ye* love, let *them* love.

Subjunctive Mode.

Present Tense.

Sing. If I love, if *thou* or *you* love, if *he* love;

Plur. if *we* love, if *ye* love, if *they* love.

Imperfect Tense.

Sing. If I loved, if *thou* or *you* loved, if *he* loved;

Plur. if *we* loved, if *ye* loved, if *they* loved.

Perfect Tense.

Sing. If I have loved, if *thou* or *you* have loved, if
he have loved;

Plur. if *we* have loved, if *ye* have loved, if *they*
have loved.

Second Perfect Tense.

Sing. If I had loved, if *thou* hadst or *you* had loved,
if *he* had loved;

Plur. if *we* had loved, if *ye* had loved, if *they* had
loved.

Futurs

Future Tense.

Sing. If I shall love, if thou shalt or wilt or if you shall or will love, if he shall or will love;
 If we shall or will love, if ye shall or will love, if they shall or will love.

*Potential Mode.**Present Tense.*

Sing. I may or can love, thou mayst or canst love or you may or can love, &c.

Perfect Tense.

Sing. I might, could or should have loved, thou might'st, could'st, or should'st have loved, &c.

Infinitive Mode.

Present Tense. To love.

Perfect Tense. To have loved.

Participles. Loving, loved.

*VERB PASSIVE, To be loved.**Indicative Mode.**Present Tense.*

Sing. I am loved, thou art or you are loved, he is loved;

Plur. we are loved, ye or you are loved, they are loved.

Imperfect Tense.

Sing. I was loved, thou wast or you was loved, he was loved;

Plur. we were loved, ye or you were loved, they were loved.

Perfect Tense.

Sing. I have been loved, thou hast or you have been loved, he has been loved;

Plur. we have been loved, ye or you have been loved, they have been loved.

Second

Second Perfect Tense.

Sing. I had been loved, thou hadst or you had been loved, he had been loved;

Plur. we had been loved, ye or you had been loved, they had been loved.

Future Tense.

Sing. I shall or will be loved, thou shalt or wilt or you shall or will be loved, he shall or will be loved;

Plur. we shall or will be loved, ye or you shall be loved, they shall or will be loved.

Imperative Mode.

Sing. Let me be loved, be thou or you loved, let him be loved;

Plur. Let us be loved, be ye loved, let them be loved.

Subjunctive Mode.

Present Tense. If I be loved, &c.

Imperfect Tense. If I were loved, &c.

Perfect Tense. If I have been loved, &c.

Second Perfect. If I had been loved, &c.

Future Tense. If I shall be loved, &c.

Potential Mode.

Present Tense. I may or can be loved, &c.

Imperfect Tense. I might be loved, &c.

Perfect Tense. I might have been loved, &c.

Infinitive Mode.

Present Tense. To be loved.

Perfect Tense. To have been loved.

Participle. Loving.

IRREGULAR VERBS

Differ from the Regular in the formation of the Imperfect and Perfect Tenses. Regular Verbs form those Tenses by adding *ed* to the First Person Singular of the Present Tense of the Indicative Mode, when it terminates with a consonant; as,

<i>Present.</i>	<i>Imperfect.</i>	<i>Perfect.</i>
I turn	I turned	I have turned;
or by adding <i>d</i> only, when it ends with <i>e</i> , as,		
<i>Present.</i>	<i>Imperfect.</i>	<i>Perfect.</i>
I love	I loved	I have loved.

And all Verbs, which vary from the above rule, in either or both Tenses, are esteemed Irregular.

EXAMPLES.

N.B. Those marked thus * admit also the Regular Form.

abide	abode	abode
arise	arose	arisen
awake	awoke	awoke
bear	bore, bare	born
beat	beat	beat, beaten
beget	begat, begot	* begot, begotten
begin	began, begun	begun
behold	beheld	beheld, beholden
bend	bent	bent
bereave	bereft	bereft *
beseech	besought	besought *
bid	bade, bad	bid, bidden
bind	bound	bound
bite	bit	bit, bitten
bleed	bled	bled

N.B. *To bleed* has two significations, viz. *to run with blood*, and *to let blood*, or *to be let blood*.

To

To *blood* signifies to *stain with blood* (3); therefore to use *blooded* for *bled* or *was bled*, is an absurdity.

blow	blew	blown *
break	broke, brake	broke, broken
breed	bred	bred
bring	brought	brought
build	built	built *
burst	burst	burst *
buy	built	bought
catch	caught	caught *

N.B. *Cotch* is sometimes ignorantly used for *caught*.

chide	chid	chid, chidden
chuse	chose	chose, chosen
cleave	clave	cleft
clothe	clad	clad *
come	came	come
creep	crept	crept *
crow	crew	crowed *
dare	dar'ft, durst	dared
deal	dealt	dealt
do	did	done
draw	drew	drawn
dream	dreamt	dreamt *
drink	drank	drunk
drive	drove	drove, driven
eat	eat, ate	eat, eaten
fall	fell	fall
feed	fed	fed
feel	felt	felt
fight	fought	fought

N.B. *Fit* (which, as a Substantive, signifies a *disorder*, as an Adjective, *convenient*, *proper*, and, as a Verb, to *suit* or *accommodate*, is frequently very improperly used for *fought*.

(3) Johnson.

E

find

find	found	found
flee	fled	fled
fly	flew <i>flee</i>	flown <i>fly</i>

N.B. To ~~fly~~ and to ~~fly~~ are often erroneously confounded, the former meaning to *run*, as from an enemy, the latter to *mount in the air*, as a bird.

fling	flung	flung
forget	forgot, forgot	forgot, forgotten
forlake	forsook	forsoke
forswear	{ forswore, forware, }	forsworn
freeze	froze	frozen
geld	gelt	gelt *
get	gat, got	got, gotten
gild	gilt	gilt *
gird	girt	girt
give	gave	given
go	went	gone
grind	ground	ground
grow	grew	grown
hang	hung	hung *
have	had	had
hear	heard	heard
hide	hid	hid, hidden
hold	held	held
keep	kept	kept
know	knew	known
lade	laden	laden
lay	laid	laid, lain
lye	lied	lied

N.B. To *lay* and to *lye* are also frequently confounded; the former meaning to *put or place* (4), the latter to *tell a falsity*.

(4) Lowth.

lead

l̃ead	l̃ed	l̃ed
learn	learnt	learnt *
leave	left	left
lend	lent	lent
load	loaded	loaden *
lose	lost	lost
make	made	made
m̃ean	m̃cant	m̃cant *
m̃eet	m̃et	m̃et
mix	mixt	mixt *
mow	mowed	mown *
rend	rent	rent
r̃ide	r̃id, r̃ode	r̃idden
ring	rang	rung
r̃ise	r̃ose	r̃isen

N.B. R̃ise, with a short ̃, is often improperly used for r̃ose.

run	ran	run
faw	fawed	fawn *
fay	faid	faid
fee	faw	feen
seek	fought	fought
feethe	fod	fodden *
fell	fold	fold
fend	fend	fent
shake	shook	shaken
shew	shewed	shewn
shine	shone	shone
shoe	shod	shod
shoot	shot	shot
shrink	shrank	shrunk
shrive	shrove	shriven
sing	fung	fung
sink	funk	funk
sit	set, sat	sat, sitten

slay	flew	slain
sleep	ſlept	ſlept
ſlide	ſlid	ſlid, ſlidden
ſling	ſlung, ſlang	ſlung
ſmell	ſmelt	ſmelt
ſmite	ſmit, ſmōte	ſmit, ſmitten
ſow	ſowed	ſown *
ſew	ſewed	ſewn *

N.B. To *ſow*, which ſignifies to *put ſeed in the ground*, is commonly but erroneouſly uſed for to *ſew*, which means to *work with a needle*.

ſpeak	ſpoke	ſpoken
ſpēd	ſpēd	ſpēd *
ſpell	ſpelt	ſpelt *
ſpend	ſpent	ſpent
ſpill	ſpilt	ſpilt *
ſpin	ſpun, ſpan	ſpun
ſpit	ſpat	ſpat, ſpitten

N.B. To *ſpit*, when it means to *ſpirt moiſture from the mouth*, makes *ſpat* and *ſpitten*, in the Imperfect and Perfect Tenſes ; but when it ſignifies to *put on a ſpit*, it makes *ſpitted* in both thoſe Tenſes.

ſpring	ſprang, ſprung	ſprung
ſtand	ſtood	ſtood
ſteal	ſtole	ſtolen
ſtick	ſtuck	ſtuck
ſting	ſtung	ſtung
ſtride	ſtrode	ſtrode, ſtridden
ſtrike	ſtruck	ſtruck, ſtricken
ſtring	ſtrung	ſtrung *
ſtrive	ſtrove	ſtrove, ſtriven
ſtrow, ſtrew	ſtrowed, ſtrewed	ſtrown, ſtrewn *
ſwear	ſware, ſwore	ſworn

ſwēat

fwēat	fwēt	fwēt
fwēep	fwēpt	fwēpt
fwim	fwam, fwum	fwum
fwing	fwung	fwung
take	took	taken
teach	taught	taught
teār	tore, tare	torn
tell	told	told
think	thought	thought
thrive	throve	thriven
throw	threw	thrown
tread	trōd, trōde	trōdden
weār	wore, ware	worn
weave	wove	woven *
win	won	won
wind	wound	wound
work	wrought	wrought *
wring	wrung	wrung
write	wrote, writ	written

Some Irregulars form their Present, Imperfect, and Perfect Tenses all alike ; as,

cast	cast	cast
cost	cost	cost
cut	cut	cut
hit	hit	hit
hurt	hurt	hurt
knit	knit	knit *
let	let	let
light	light	light *
put	put	put
quit	quit	quit *
read	read	read
rent	rent	rent
rid	rid	rid
set	set	set

N.B. To *set*, which signifies to *plant*, should not be confounded with to *fit*, i. e. *fit down*. shed

shed	shed	shed *
shred	shred	shred
shut	shut	shut
slit	slit	slit
spilt	split	split
spread	spread	spread
thrust	thrust	thrust
wet	wet	wet

Of A D V E R B S.

An Adverb is a word joined to a Verb, to express the manner of the Action or Suffering; as, *he ran swiftly, he was sorely beaten*; here *swiftly* and *sorely* are Adverbs, expressing in what manner *he ran* or *was beaten*: sometimes to Adjectives, as, *he is better, but very weak*: and sometimes to another Adverb, as, *wise men sometimes act very foolishly*.

Adverbs admit of no variation, a few excepted, which have sometimes the Degrees of Comparison; as,

often	oftener	oftenest
late	later	latest, last
soon	sooner	soonest
ill	worse	worst
well	better	best

See the head ADJECTIVES, p. 12.

Of P R E P O S I T I O N S.

Prepositions are chiefly used to denote the Cases of Substantives, which in some languages are marked by the terminations of the Substantives themselves. See p. 4.

Of

OF CONJUNCTIONS.

Conjunctions are used to connect words and sentences together ; as, *he and I rode to London, and Thomas staid at home* : here the first *and* connects the two words *he, I*, and the second *and* connects the two sentences, *you and I, &c. Thomas staid, &c.*

OF INTERJECTIONS.

An Interjection is an exclamation expressing some affection of the mind, such as joy, grief, pleasure, pain, displeasure, &c. as, *ah, alas, oh, lo, psba, &c.*

N.B. Neither Prepositions, Conjunctions, or Interjections admit of any variation.

OMISSIONS.

P. 6. l. 10. Substantives which end in *st*, form their Plurals by the addition of a single *s*, as, *beasts, feasts, posts, toasts, &c.* and not by adding *es*, as, *beastes, feastes, postes, toastes, &c.* though the latter method of speaking is very common among ignorant people.

P. 17. l. 5. *Mought*, which is often used for *might*, is a bad expression.

THE

The DECLINABLE PARTS of SPEECH, with their SUB-DIVISIONS.

The DECLINABLE PARTS of SPEECH are

ARTICLES,
p. 3.

Two Numbers,
p. 3.

Singular
Plural
Nominative
Genitive
Dative
Accusative
Vocative
Ablative

Six Cases, p. 4.

Proper
Common
of Multitude,
p. 14.

SUBSTANTIVES,
p. 3.

Three Sorts

Two Numbers.
Six Cases

Three Genders

Masculine
Feminine
Neuter
Numbers
Cases

PRONOUNS,
p. 7.

Personal

Persons — — { First
Second
Third

Possessive

Genders
Numbers
Genders
Numbers

Relative

Cases
Genders

Demonstrative

Numbers

ADJECTIVES,
p. 10.

Three Degrees
of Comparison

Positive
Comparative
Superlative

Four Sorts

Active
Passive
Regular
Irregular

Five Modes

Indicative
Imperative
Subjunctive
Potential

VERBS, p. 13.

Five Tenses

Infinitive
Present
Imperfect
Perfect
Second Perfect
Future

Two Numbers
Three Persons
Two Participles

11 JY 63

How many Parts of Speech are there

Define ea — How many Things

belong to a Noun — Define ea

How many ^{Kind} of Pronouns are there

How many Things belong to a Verb

Define ea — # How many Concoords

Define ea

what is meant by the Agent or the

Subject of a Verb — and the Object of

the Verb